

REMARKS

Claims 21-28 and 31-41 are currently pending in the application. Claims 1-20, 22, and 28 have been canceled. Claims 29 and 30 are withdrawn. Applicant has amended claims 21, 23, 24, and 39.

Claim Objections

Claim 28 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicant has amended claims 21 and 39 to incorporate the limitations of claim 28. Applicant has canceled claims 22 and 28 accordingly. Therefore, Applicant requests withdrawal of such objection and allowance of the claims.

Applicant has also amended formula II in claims 21 and 39 to correct a typographical error, therefore clarifying that formula II should be as stated in the Specification at page 6.

Claim Rejections

35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 21-27, 32, 33, and 35-41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Canich et al. (U.S. 6,194,341) in view of Winter et al. (U.S. 5,679,811). Claims 21-24, 31, 34, 35, and 39-41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mecking (DE 198 23 871).

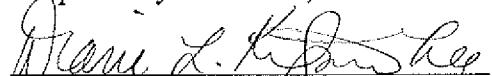
Applicant has amended claims 21 and 39 to include the limitations of allowable claim 28. Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of these rejections and allowance of the claims.

In conclusion, Applicant submits that the references cited in the Office Action, neither alone nor in combination, teach, show, or suggest the claimed features. Having

addressed all issues set out in the Office Action, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully requests the same.

Respectfully submitted,

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